

section 171 of Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure.

COMMISSIONERS; TERMINATION OF APPOINTING  
AUTHORITY

Section 4(b) of act July 28, 1953, provided that the authority contained in subsec. (a) of this section respecting the appointment of commissioners “is hereby terminated”.

SECTION UNAFFECTED BY REVISED TITLE 28

Act June 25, 1948, ch. 646, §2(d), 62 Stat. 985, provided that nothing in Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure, should be construed as repealing any of the provisions of this section.

**§ 115. Personal financial liability of contracting officers**

(a) Whenever any payment is made from Government funds to any war contractor or other person as an advance, partial or final payment on any termination claim, or pursuant to any loan, guaranty, or agreement for the purchase of any loan, or any commitment in connection therewith, entered into by the Government, no officer or other Government agent authorizing or approving such payment or settlement, or certifying the voucher for such payment, or making the payment in accordance with a duly certified voucher, shall be personally liable for such payment, in the absence of fraud on his part. In settling the accounts of any disbursing officer the Government Accountability Office shall allow any such disbursements made by him notwithstanding any other provisions of law.

(b) For the purpose of making termination settlements or interim financing any Government agency is authorized to rely upon such certificates of war contractors as it deems proper and to permit war contractors and other persons to rely upon such certificates without financial liability in the absence of fraud on their part.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 358, §15, 58 Stat. 664; Pub. L. 108-271, §8(b), July 7, 2004, 118 Stat. 814.)

AMENDMENTS

2004—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 108-271 substituted “Government Accountability Office” for “General Accounting Office”.

**§ 116. Repealed. Pub. L. 104-316, title I, § 121(a), Oct. 19, 1996, 110 Stat. 3836**

Section, acts July 1, 1944, ch. 358, §16, 58 Stat. 664; Ex. Ord. No. 9809, §8, eff. Dec. 12, 1946, 11 F.R. 14281; 1947 Reorg. Plan No. 1, §201, eff. July 1, 1947, 12 F.R. 4534, 61 Stat. 951; June 30, 1949, ch. 288, title I, §102(b), 63 Stat. 380, related to functions and jurisdiction of General Accounting Office in reviewing final settlements made by contracting agency, in certifying settlements suspected of being fraudulent to Department of Justice, Administrator of General Services, and contracting agency, and in reporting on efficacy of settlement methods and procedures to Congress.

**§ 117. Defective, informal, and quasi contracts**

**(a) Lack of formalized contract**

Where any person has arranged to furnish or furnished to a contracting agency or to a war contractor any materials, services, or facilities related to the prosecution of the war, without a formal contract, relying in good faith upon the apparent authority of an officer or agent of a

contracting agency, written or oral instructions, or any other request to proceed from a contracting agency, the contracting agency shall pay such person fair compensation therefor.

**(b) Technical defects or omissions**

Whenever any formal or technical defect or omission in any prime contract, or in any grant of authority to an officer or agent of a contracting agency who ordered any materials, services, and facilities might invalidate the contract or commitment, the contracting agency (1) shall not take advantage of such defect or omission; (2) shall amend, confirm, or ratify such contract or commitment without consideration in order to cure such defect or omission; and (3) shall make a fair settlement of any obligation thereby created or incurred by such agency, whether expressed or implied, in fact or in law, or in the nature of an implied or quasi contract.

**(c) Failure to settle**

Where a contracting agency fails to settle by agreement any claim asserted under this section, the dispute shall be subject to the provisions of section 113 of this title.

**(d) Formalization of obligations; termination date for filing claims**

The Administrator of General Services shall require each contracting agency to formalize all such obligations and commitments within such period as the Administrator of General Services deems appropriate. No person shall be entitled to recover compensation, to receive a settlement of any alleged obligation, or to obtain the benefit of any amendment, confirmation, ratification, or formalization of any alleged contract or commitment under the provisions of subsections (a), (b), (c), or (d) of this section, unless such person shall, on or before one hundred and eighty days after June 28, 1954, have filed a claim therefor with the contracting agency.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 358, §17, 58 Stat. 665; Ex. Ord. No. 9809, §8, eff. Dec. 12, 1946, 11 F.R. 14281; 1947 Reorg. Plan No. 1, §201, eff. July 1, 1947, 12 F.R. 4534, 61 Stat. 951; June 30, 1949, ch. 288, title I, §102(b), 63 Stat. 380; June 28, 1954, ch. 403, §1, 68 Stat. 300.)

AMENDMENTS

1954—Subsec. (d). Act June 28, 1954, inserted sentence providing a termination date for filing claims.

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Functions of Secretary of the Treasury transferred to Administrator of General Services by section 102(b) of act June 30, 1949, ch. 288, 63 Stat. 380, which was classified to section 752(b) of former Title 40, Public Buildings, Property, and Works, and was repealed by Pub. L. 107-217, §6(b), Aug. 21, 2002, 116 Stat. 1304.

“Secretary” substituted for “Director” by section 8 of Ex. Ord. No. 9809 and section 201 of Reorg. Plan No. 1 of 1947, set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Transfer of functions by act June 30, 1949, effective July 1, 1949, see section 605, formerly section 505, of act June 30, 1949, ch. 288, 63 Stat. 403; renumbered by act Sept. 5, 1950, ch. 849, §6(a), (b), 64 Stat. 583.

NONACCRUAL OF LIABILITY

Section 2 of act June 28, 1954, provided that no liability should accrue by reason of the enactment of section